What is your name?
cat sutherland

What is your National Federation and Association or Independent Member country?
Scotland

What is the exact name and date of the session for which you are reporting?
Post conflict Northern Ireland - HERstory of History

Please indicate the sponsors of the session you attended.
Teaching Womens Network (TWN)

Which Beijing Platform for Action 12 Critical Areas for Action were covered? (select all that apply)
- Women in power and decision-making
- Women and the economy
- Human rights of women
- Education and training of women
- Violence against women
- Institutional mechanisms
- Women and armed conflict

What Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) were covered? (Select all that apply)
- SDG5 - Gender Equality
- SDG9 - Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- SDG16 - Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

What GWI Policy Resolution(s) could your attendance relate to? (select all that apply)
- Building Peace through Women's Education (2019)

Please indicate how the session relates to the local, national and/or international advocacy work of your NFA.
Women's cooperation across various cultural and religious divides is a theme that spreads out from IWD events and beyond

Session Summary
Trisha Mooney starts with TWN background. About tackling the issues that having paramilitary imbedded in the communities cause. NOT about tackling the actual paramilitary member.
1171 is the start of English invasion and stripping lands; 1800s famine. thus starting Protestant Catholic conflict
The 1921 treaty divided the country leading to the troubles from the 1960s 1968 March against Catholic housing issues... (voting still not available to many) RUC (police) 'quelled' the disturbance. loyalists also demonstrated, and conflict started with RUC in the middle.
Internment started without trial, with the majority being Catholic. Communities were segregated, and 1971 brought killings and protesters left the south. Catholics fled to the south.
Many didn't recover and Theatre of Witness was set up to give women a voice. (Each woman in the room then stood and gave their lived experience - in their own words from those where were fighters to those who lost sons/husbands/neighbours and homes)
a very powerful example of how the therapeutic nature of talking with those who could be seen as enemies gives women a voice.
How can the session impact GWI members on local, national and/or international levels?

this type of inclusive event where women talk without judgement can be replicated in many areas of traditional war as well as conflict brought about by cultural difference (and for example the indigenous people trying to reclaim their roots or black lives matters campaign)

Next steps: What needs to be done? Collaboration opportunities?:

look at how this style of event can be replicated in other areas

Additional Comments

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